

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

MARVIN J. SOUTHARD, D.S.W.
Director

ROBIN KAY, Ph.D.
Chief Deputy Director

RODERICK SHANER, M.D.
Medical Director



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DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

<http://dmh.lacounty.gov>

550 SOUTH VERMONT AVENUE, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90020

Reply To: (213) 738-4601
Fax: (213) 386-1297

May 5, 2011

TO: Each Supervisor
Robin Kay for
FROM: Marvin J. Southard, D.S.W.
Director of Mental Health
SUBJECT: **TERMINATION OF LEGAL ENTITY AGREEMENT WITH "SERENITY":
INFANT CARE HOMES**

This is to advise your Board of the termination of the Department of Mental Health's Legal Entity Agreement with "Serenity": Infant Care Homes, Contract No. MH120595, effective April 30, 2011. Board approval for this Legal Entity Agreement was given on June 1, 2010, Agenda Item No. 29.

This Agreement has been terminated at the written request of the contractor, letter dated March 15, 2011 (attached). The effective date of termination was April 30, 2011, pursuant to Paragraph 2 (Termination Without Cause) of the Legal Entity Agreement.

If you have any questions or concern regarding this termination, please contact Richard Kushi, Contracts Development and Administration Division, at (213) 738-4684.

MJS:MM:RK

Attachment

c:	Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors	Norma Fritsche
	Chief Executive Officer	Richard Kushi
	County Counsel	Mike Motodani
	Robin Kay, Ph.D.	Michael Boyle
	Margo Morales	Joseph Simoneschi
	Kimberly Nall	Alice Wong
	Bryan Mershon, Ph.D.	Winnie Suen
	Robert Greenless, Ph.D.	Rose Esquibel
	Alfredo Larios	Josie Nava

JN:Board notification memo 050511

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

March 15, 2011



Robin K.
Richard K.
3-18-11
JL

Marvin J. Southard, DSW
Director, County of Los Angeles
Department of Mental Health
550 S. Vermont Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90020

Please Send To:	
Deputy Director	BM
Lead Manager	AL
Contract Supervisor	
Contract Administrator	
Agency	
Other	

Regarding: Cessation of Contractual Agreement with DMH
Effective April 30, 2011
Serenity Infant Care Homes, Inc. Legal Entity# 01195

Dear Dr. Southard,


Serenity Infant Care Homes, Inc. is submitting this letter to notify the Los Angeles County, Department of Mental Health of its decision to discontinue servicing its contract for the provision of mental health services. The challenges presented by the transformation of the funding sources, and subsequent catastrophic decrease in referrals since May 2010 have made it impossible for Serenity to continue.

As a foster care and adoption agency, Serenity's reason for obtaining this mental health contract in 2003 was to ensure that the children coming into out-of-home care would be provided with on-site, therapeutic programming so vital to their healing from abuse and neglect. Our priority at this time is to continue providing services until each child can be transferred in a manner that is least disruptive.

Serenity regrets the cessation of its contract services, but we are confident, from our discussions with Dr. Alfredo Larios, that you will understand the necessity of our choice. Please contact us to discuss resolving the outstanding financial issues. Serenity is committed to honoring its financial obligation to the Department of Mental Health.

On behalf of the children and families served, staff, and Serenity's Board of Directors, we express our sincere appreciation for the opportunity to partner with DMH for the past eight years.

Respectfully,


Jennifer J. Choctaw, Ex. Director
Serenity Infant Care Homes, Inc.

Cc: Alfredo Larios, District Chief, Service Area 3
Bryan Meshon, Acting Deputy Director

DEPT. OF MENTAL HEALTH
CONTRACTS, INVESTMENT
AND ADMIN. DIVISION
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